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10/780,258

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Shaibal Roy

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EXAMINER

CONTEE, JOY KIMBERLY

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2617

MAIL DATE

DELIVERY MODE

08/02/2007

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/780,258

Applicant(s)

ROY, SHAIBAL

Examiner

Joy K. Contee

Art Unit

2617

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 04 May 2007.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1,3,5-15,18-27,29 and 31-37 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1,3,5-15,18-27,29,31-37 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 6/15/07
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Arguments

1. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1,3,5-15,18-27,29,31-37 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

3. Claims 1,3,5-15,18-27,29,31-37 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Maguire et al. (Maguire), U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2005/0130631.

Regarding claim 1, Maguire discloses a communications system comprising: a mobile device having a mail user agent (reads on reception side mail server); and a mobile office platform operative with the mail user agent for accessing one or more electronic mailboxes of the mail user agent using at least one protocol specific connector, said mobile office platform operative for providing only the n-most recent mail headers of electronic messages to the mail user agent in a default order of mail headers provided by the electronic mail protocol used for accessing an electronic mailbox and in an order based on associative information about the electronic mail

provider and/or electronic mailbox to be accessed (see Figs. 3 & 5, page 3 [0027] and pages 4-5 [0032-0037,0039]).

Regarding claim 3. A communications system according to claim 1, wherein said message header comprises a unique identifier (UID) of an electronic mail message ([pages 3-6 [0028-0043]).

Regarding claim 5. A communications system according to claim 4, and further comprising a database associated with said mobile office platform and containing records of associative information for electronic mail providers and/or electronic mailboxes to be accessed ([pages 3-6 [0028-0043]).

Regarding claim 6. A communications system according to claim 4, wherein said associative information comprises the name of the electronic mail protocol used for accessing an electronic mailbox ([pages 3-6 [0028-0043]).

Regarding claim 7. A communications system according to claim 4, wherein said associative information comprises the version of the electronic mail protocol used for accessing an electronic mailbox ([pages 3-6 [0028-0043]).

Regarding claim 8. A communications system according to claim 4, wherein said associative information comprises the name of the electronic mail server ([pages 3-6 [0028-0043]).

Regarding claim 9. A communications system according to claim 8, wherein the name of the electronic mail server is applicable to a specific electronic mail protocol used for accessing an electronic mailbox ([pages 3-6 [0028-0043]).

Regarding claim 10. A communications system according to claim 4, wherein said associative information comprises the domain name of an internet service provider used for accessing electronic mailboxes ([pages 3-6 [0028-0043]]).

Regarding claim 11. A communications system according to claim 1, wherein said mobile office platform is operative for downloading an entire message list for one or more electronic mailboxes, sorting the message headers, and extracting only the n-most recent mail messages for delivery to a mail user agent that requested electronic mail ([pages 3-6 [0028-0043]]).

Regarding claim 12. A communications system according to claim 1, wherein said mobile device comprises a wireless device. ([pages 3-6 [0028-0043]]).

Regarding claim 13. A communications system according to claim 1, wherein said mail user agent is operative for accessing the mobile office platform using a POP, IMAP or webmail protocol ([0041]).

Regarding claim 14. A communications system according to claim 1, wherein said plurality of protocol specific connectors comprise a POP connector for accessing POP mailboxes, an IMAP connector for accessing IMAP mailboxes, or a connector for accessing mail from an Exchange server ([0041]).

Regarding claim 15. A communications system comprising: a server having a mail agent for accessing one or more electronic mailboxes of a mail user agent using at least one protocol specific connector; and a database associated with the mail agent and containing associative information about an electronic mail provider and/or electronic mailbox relating to the order in which mail headers are stored and/or retrieved

Art Unit: 2617

from the electronic mailbox, wherein said mail agent is operative for providing only the n-most recent mail headers of electronic messages to a mail user agent of a mobile device([pages 3-6 [0028-0043]]).

Regarding claim 18. A communications system according to claim 15, wherein said message header comprises a unique identifier (UID) of an electronic mail message. ([pages 3-6 [0028-0043]]).

Regarding claim 19. A communications system according to claim 15, wherein said associative information comprises the name of the electronic mail protocol used for accessing an electronic mailbox([pages 3-6 [0028-0043]]).

Regarding claim 20. A communications system according to claim 15, wherein said associative information comprises the version of the electronic mail protocol used for accessing an electronic mailbox([pages 3-6 [0028-0043]]).

Regarding claim 21. A communications system according to claim 15, wherein said associative information comprises the name of the electronic mail server([pages 3-6 [0028-0043]]).

Regarding claim 22. A communications system according to claim 21, wherein the name of the electronic mail server is applicable to a specific electronic mail protocol used for accessing an electronic mailbox([pages 3-6 [0028-0043]]).

Regarding claim 23. A communications system according to claim 15, wherein said associative information comprises the domain name of an internet service provider used for accessing electronic mailboxes([pages 3-6 [0028-0043]]).

Regarding claim 24. A communications system according to claim 15, wherein said mobile agent is operative for downloading an entire message list for one or more electronic mailboxes, sorting the message headers and extracting only the n-most recent mail messages for delivery to a mail user agent that requested electronic mail([pages 3-6 [0028-0043]]).

Regarding claim 25. A communications system according to claim 15, wherein a mail user agent is operative for accessing the mail agent using a POP, IMAP or webmail protocol([0041]).

Regarding claim 26. A communications system according to claim 15, wherein said plurality of protocol specific connectors comprise a POP connector for accessing POP mailboxes, an IMAP connector for accessing IMAP mailboxes, or a connector for accessing mail from an Exchange server([0041]).

Regarding claim 27. A method of retrieving electronic mail comprising the steps of: accessing one or more electronic mailboxes of a mail user agent using at least one protocol specific connector; and providing to the mail user agent only the n-most recent mail headers of electronic mail messages that had been accessed ([pages 3-6 [0028-0043]]).

Regarding claim 29. A method according to claim 27, wherein said message header comprises a unique identifier of an electronic mail message([pages 3-6 [0028-0043]]).

Regarding claim 31. A method according to claim 30, and further comprising the step of storing associative information within a database([pages 3-6 [0028-0043]]).

Regarding claim 32. A method according to claim 30, wherein said associative information comprises the name of the electronic mail protocol used for accessing an electronic mailbox([pages 3-6 [0028-0043]).

Regarding claim 33. A method according to claim 30, wherein said associative information comprises the version of the electronic mail protocol used for accessing an electronic mailbox([pages 3-6 [0028-0043]).

Regarding claim 34. A method according to claim 30, wherein said associative information comprises the name of the electronic mail server([pages 3-6 [0028-0043]).

Regarding claim 35. A method according to claim 34, wherein the name of the electronic mail server is applicable to a specific electronic mail protocol used for accessing an electronic mailbox([pages 3-6 [0028-0043]).

Regarding claim 36. A method according to claim 31, wherein said associative information comprises the domain name of an internet service provider used for accessing electronic mailboxes([pages 3-6 [0028-0043]).

Regarding claim 37. A method according to claim 27, and further comprising the step of downloading an entire message list for one or more electronic mailboxes, sorting the message headers and extracting only the n-most recent mail messages for delivery to the mail user agent([pages 3-6 [0028-0043]).

Conclusion

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Joy K Contee whose telephone number is

571.272.7906. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday, 5:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Charles Appiah can be reached on 571.272.7904. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571.273.8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

JC


JOY K. CONTEE
PATENT EXAMINER